



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability  
Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Tuesday Evening, December 16, 2008

## Electricity

### Update: Just Over 240,000 Customers Still Without Power in U.S. Northeast December 16

An estimated 240,108 customers remained without power in the U.S. northeast today, five days after a winter storm cut power to more than 1.3 million. The hardest-hit utility, Northeast Utilities' Public Service Co. of New Hampshire, said some customers would remain without power for several more days. National Grid hoped to restore service to all its customers by the middle of this week. President George W. Bush issued an emergency declaration for the state of Maine, enabling the federal government to release supplies for the recovery process. Central Maine Power, the state's most severely-impacted utility, reported just over 15,000 customers without power today. The company hoped to restore electricity to all customers tomorrow.

Reuters, 09:32 December 16, 2008

[http://www.boston.com/news/local/maine/articles/2008/12/15/bush\\_issues\\_emergency\\_declaration\\_for\\_maine/?rss\\_id=Boston.com+--+Maine+news](http://www.boston.com/news/local/maine/articles/2008/12/15/bush_issues_emergency_declaration_for_maine/?rss_id=Boston.com+--+Maine+news)

Northeast Customer Power Outages			
December 11-16, 2008			
Electric Utility	State	Peak	Latest Reported
Public Service Co. of New Hampshire	NH	322,000	94,800
The New Hampshire Electric Cooperative	NH	41,000	4,723
National Grid (New Hampshire)	NH	24,000	6,000
Unitil (New Hampshire)	NH	50,000	10,530
National Grid (Massachusetts)	MA	294,000	50,077
dUnitil (Massachusetts)	MA	25,000	12,291
Western Massachusetts Electric Co.	MA	20,879	7,860
National Grid (New York)	NY	229,000	25,946
Central Hudson Gas & Electric	NY	60,000	1,800
New York State Gas & Electric	NY	34,000	7,900
Long Island Power Authority	NY	7,590	5
Central Maine Power	ME	220,000	15,713
Bangor Hydro Electric Co.	ME	12,056	0
Central Vermont Power	VT	28,120	2,191
Connecticut Power & Light	CT	17,095	272
National Grid (Rhode Island)	RI	6,000	0
<b>TOTAL*</b>		1,390,740	240,108

\*Total outages only represent electric utilities listed in this table.

Sources:

<http://www.psnh.com/aboutpsnh/mediacenter/stormupdates.asp>

<http://www.nhec.com/oms.php>

[https://www.nationalgridus.com/granitestate/a3-1\\_news2.asp?document=3835](https://www.nationalgridus.com/granitestate/a3-1_news2.asp?document=3835)

[http://services.unitil.com/content/unitilcom\\_messages/Dec16%255F12%255F30pm12%252F16%252F2008%2B12%253A06%253A02%2BPM.pdf](http://services.unitil.com/content/unitilcom_messages/Dec16%255F12%255F30pm12%252F16%252F2008%2B12%253A06%253A02%2BPM.pdf)

<https://www1.nationalgridus.com/masselectric/storm/OutagesByCounty.aspx>

<http://www.wmeco.com/community/stormcenter/restorationstatus.aspx>

<https://www1.nationalgridus.com/niagaramohawk/storm/OutagesByCounty.aspx>

[http://www.cenhud.com/about\\_us/news/storm\\_dec16\\_2p.html](http://www.cenhud.com/about_us/news/storm_dec16_2p.html)

<http://www.nyseg.com/OurCompany/News/2008/121608mechanicville2.html>

<http://www.lipower.org/stormcenter/outages/township.html>

<http://www.cmpco.com/OurCompany/News/2008/news081216a.html>  
<http://www.bhe.com/about/outages.cfm>  
<http://www.cl-p.com/outage/default.aspx>  
<http://www.cvps.com/CustomerService/outages/default.aspx>  
<https://www.nationalgridus.com/narragansett/index.asp>

### **Update: Winter Storm Cuts Power to About 29,000 British Columbia Customers December 15**

Winds knocked down trees, power lines, and cut power to about 29,000 customers in British Columbia, Canada yesterday. Snow was expected to continue tomorrow and over the weekend.

<http://www.theprovince.com/story.html?id=1080466>

### **NRC Begins Special Inspection at Dominion's 1,253 MW Millstone Nuke Unit 3 in Connecticut December 15**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) began the inspection due to the recent discovery of a volume of gas trapped in piping for a reactor safety system, the NRC said in a release. Dominion found and resolved the problem during a refueling and maintenance outage in October. The NRC plans to review the company's investigation of and response to the incident.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2008/08-064.i.html>

### **PSE&G's 1,096 MW Salem Nuke Unit 1 in New Jersey Reduced to 89 Percent by December 16**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of December 15 the unit was operating at full power.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

### **PSE&G's 1,092 MW Salem Nuke Unit 2 in New Jersey Reduced to 88 Percent by December 16**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of December 15 the unit was operating at full power.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

### **FirstEnergy's 1,235 MW Perry Nuke Unit 1 in Ohio Reduced to 91 Percent by December 16**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of December 15 the unit was operating at full power.

Information derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

### **AES's 332 MW Alamosa Gas-fired Unit 3 in California Reduced by December 15**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit experienced an unplanned curtailment of 232 MW by December 15.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200812151515.html>

### **Update: APS's 1,243 MW Palo Verde Nuke Unit 2 in Arizona Ramped Up to 68 Percent by December 16**

Arizona Public Service (APS) shut the unit by November 22 to repair a hydrogen leak in the cooling system, associated with the main electrical generator. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of December 15 the unit was operating at 9 percent.

Reuters, 07:40 December 16, 2008

Bloomberg News, 07:41 December 16, 2008

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

### **Update: Exelon's 855 MW Quad Cities Nuke Unit 1 in Illinois Ramped Up to 97 Percent by December 16**

The company slowed the unit to perform turbine tests, a spokesman said previously. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission reported that on the morning of December 15 the unit was operating at 80 percent.

Bloomberg News, 11:24 December 16, 2008

Information also derived from the NRC Power Reactor Status Reports:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2008/>

### **Duke's 756 MW Moss Landing Gas-fired Unit 7 in California Returns to Service by December 15**

According to the California Independent System Operator, the unit returned from an unplanned outage.

<http://www.caiso.com/unitstatus/data/unitstatus200812151515.html>

### **Update: Luminant Plans Restart of 593 MW Big Brown Coal-fired Unit 1 in Texas December 16-17**

Luminant aborted the restart on December 13 “due to the inability to reach adequate pressure in the first stage high pressure section impulse chamber of the main turbine,” it said in a filing with state regulators. The unit had been returning from an extended, turbine-related outage. The unit went offline by November 8. The company planned to inspect the turbine and restart the unit, but cautioned that the process might be “prolonged.”

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oce/eeer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=117682>

Reuters, 08:16 December 16, 2008

### **Update: TransAlta's 399 MW Sundance Coal-fired Unit 6 in Alberta Shut December 16**

The unit shut and returned to service yesterday, then stalled again early this morning.

Reuters, 8:28 December 16, 2008

Bloomberg News, 08:03 December 16, 2008

### **Enmax's 250 MW Calgary Gas-fired Unit in Alberta Shut December 15**

Reuters, 8:28 December 16, 2008

### **Update: OPG Restarts 500 MW Pickering Nuke Unit 5 in Ontario by December 16**

Ontario Power Generation (OPG) shut the unit on December 5 to fix a pump seal in the reactor's water-cooling system. It ramped up to about 220 MW by today.

Bloomberg News, 07:59 December 16, 2008

### **Update: OPG Restarts 500 MW Pickering Nuke Unit 4 in Ontario by December 16**

The unit went offline on December 10. It was operating at about 100 MW today.

Bloomberg News, 14:10 December 15, 2008

### **Electricity Generation Sufficient in Texas through 2014—ERCOT**

Texas's electricity capacity will sufficiently meet customer demand through 2014, the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) said December 16. Citing lower demand forecasts and expected capacity growth, ERCOT said generation capacity will significantly outpace the grid's required 12.5 percent reserve margin through 2014.

ERCOT expects companies to install 1,147 MW in new power generation by the summer of 2010, and said a 1,792 MW gas-fired facility will enter service in 2013. Citing economic conditions, ERCOT lowered its forecast for peak-summer demand by 1.5 percent in 2009 and 2 percent in 2010.

DJN, 12:34 December 16, 2008

Bloomberg News, 12:11 December 16, 2008

### **Update: NRC Accepts Unistar's Application for 1,600 MW Nuclear Reactor at Nine Mile Point Site in New York December 15**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) accepted for review Unistar's Combined License application, the NRC said in a release. The decision does not mean NRC has approved or rejected the proposal.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2008/08-224.html>

## **Update: NRC Accepts Ameren's Application for 1,600 MW Nuclear Reactor at Callaway Site in Missouri December 15**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) accepted for review Ameren's Combined License application, the NRC said in a release. The decision does not mean NRC has approved or rejected the proposal.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2008/08-225.html>

## **ProWind Canada Considers 187.5 MW Wind Power Project in Ontario**

The company would install 75 turbines across Dundas, Ontario. The project would involve multiple wind farms, with a combined capacity of 187.5 MW.

<http://stormwire.stormexchange.com/2008/12/ontario-wind-company-considering-major.html>

## **AESO Recommends 240 kV Loop Transmission System to Link Wind Power to Alberta, Canada Customers**

The new transmission lines would accommodate the 2,700 MW of wind power slated to come online in the region over the next ten years, according to the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO). AESO expects construction to span three phases: the first stage would account for 1,200 MW, and the second and third phases would provide for the remaining transmission, as needed. The group plans to apply for regulatory approval by the end of 2008.

Reuters, 12:28 December 16, 2008

## ***Petroleum***

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### **Update: Offshore Oil Output Continues to Climb in Gulf of Mexico after Hurricanes Gustav and Ike, MMS Reports December 16**

An estimated 183,861 b/d of oil production remained shut in the Gulf of Mexico December 16, according to the Minerals Management Service (MMS). That total accounts for about 14.1 percent of the region's output. Based on data from offshore operator reports submitted as of 11:30 a.m. CDT December 16, personnel remain evacuated from a total of 45 production platforms, equivalent to 6.5 percent of the 694 manned platforms in the Gulf of Mexico.

Offshore oil and gas operators continued to reboard platforms and restore production.

<http://www.mms.gov/ooc/press/2008/press1216.htm>

### **Valero's 100,000 b/d FCC Shuts at 250,000 b/d St. Charles, Louisiana Refinery**

The 100,000 b/d fluidic catalytic cracking unit (FCC) at the St. Charles refinery in Norco, Louisiana shut for unscheduled work, a spokesman said. The company hoped to determine today how long the unit would be offline, and how it might impact production.

Bloomberg News, 18:40 December 15, 2008

Reuters, 17:41 December 15, 2008

### **Boiler Shutdown at Valero's 182,200 b/d Delaware City, Delaware Refinery December 15**

The boiler was associated with a fluid catalytic cracker (FCC). It was not clear if the shutdown had any impact on production. The incident triggered flaring.

Bloomberg News, 21:07 December 15, 2008

### **Hydrotreater Shutdown at Valero's 135,000 b/d Wilmington, California Refinery December 15**

A steam header failure forced shut a gas oil hydrotreater yesterday morning, Valero said. The company began restarting the unit during the afternoon. "We don't expect the upset to have a serious impact on production at this point, but we won't know until tomorrow," a spokesman said.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN1552924620081215>

Bloomberg News, 17:08 December 15, 2008

### **Update: BP Fixes 72,000 b/d, Indiana-to-Michigan Products Pipeline Over Weekend**

BP completed repairs to its 72,000 b/d pipeline over the weekend, a company spokesman said. The line delivers refined products from the company's Whiting, Indiana refinery to its fuel terminal in River Rouge, Michigan. A fatal car accident and fire forced it shut on December 5.

Bloomberg News, 18:35 December 15, 2008

### **ExxonMobil to Increase Diesel Production at Two U.S., one European Refinery**

ExxonMobil plans to increase “clean diesel” production at its 567,000 b/d Baytown, Texas refinery, its 503,000 b/d Baton Rouge, Louisiana facility and its refinery in Antwerp, Belgium. All told, the company expects to raise its diesel production by 10 percent, or more than 142,000 b/d. The planned additions include a new 1,548 b/d desulfurization unit at Baytown and a similar, 2,143 b/d unit at Baton Rouge. Both those units would come online by the end of 2010. ExxonMobil also said it would convert its U.S. diesel output to clean diesel.

<http://www.chron.com/dispatch/story.mpl/business/6166616.html>

### **Update: Holly Installs New Units, Increases Output by 5,000 b/d at Woods Cross, Utah Refinery**

Holly Corp. added a gasoline hydrocracker, a Black Wax Crude desalter and a Black Wax upgrading facility, it said on its website. The additions increased the facility’s capacity by 19 percent, or 5,000 b/d. “We are now effectively a 31,000-barrel-a-day refinery,” a spokesman said.

Bloomberg News, 15:06 December 15, 2008

### **U.S. Oil-and-Gas Drilling Slides 12 Percent from September**

The number of working U.S. drilling rigs slid to 1,790, a 2 percent year-on-year drop and 12 percent lower than September 2008, Baker Hughes Inc. said on Friday. Most analysts anticipate further reductions, as lagging energy prices and economic conditions squeeze drillers’ prospects.

[http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a\\_id=70693](http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=70693)

[http://files.shareholder.com/downloads/BHI/459516224x0x258567/3A4FF14E-B71E-41C9-806C-18866FEA70EE/Rigs\\_By\\_State\\_121208.xls](http://files.shareholder.com/downloads/BHI/459516224x0x258567/3A4FF14E-B71E-41C9-806C-18866FEA70EE/Rigs_By_State_121208.xls)

### **Pirates Hijack Total-Operated Boats Offshore Yemen December 16**

Somali pirates captured a Total-operated tugboat and a Turkish cargo ship December 16. A Total spokesman said pirates had seized both a tugboat and a barge, but said the company did not own either ship. The tugboat had been en route from Yemen's southern Mukalla port to Malaysia, a Total official said.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gB7YMEDuCwwY9ncDOtPAkEI4-H2wD953UVQG1>

Bloomberg News, 13:02 December 16, 2008

### **OPEC Sees 0.18 Percent Drop in Global Oil Demand Next Year**

OPEC expects global oil demand to slide by 0.18 percent next year, to a total 85.68 million b/d, the group said December 16. The prediction runs counter to that of the International Energy Agency (IEA), which forecasted a 0.5 percent demand jump in 2009. OPEC meets tomorrow, December 17, to discuss a possible supply cut.

[http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a\\_id=70749](http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=70749)

### **Update: Oil Companies Book 25 Supertankers, up to 50 Million Barrels of Oil Storage**

Oil companies have booked about 5 percent of the global supertanker fleet, as sliding oil prices encourage firms to wait for better profits. Included in the companies are Royal Dutch Shell and Koch Industries. The global supertanker fleet consists of 502 vessels, and about 1 billion barrels of crude storage capacity.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601087&sid=aOGaxbmbEhvo&refer=home>

### **Mexico Plans to Increase Oil Production at Chicontepec Area to 550,000 b/d or More by 2021**

Mexico produces about 35,000 b/d, at present, from its Chicontepec region in eastern Mexico. The nation expects to drill 15,000 wells in the area over the next 15 years, and increase production to 550,000 b/d or more by 2021. State-oil company Pemex is seeking drillers’ bids for 500 Chicontepec wells.

Reuters, 12:12 December 16, 2008

### **Brazil Receives 100,000 Barrel FPSO for Campos Basin Deep Water Field**

The FPSO will be hooked up to the anchoring system as part of the BC-10 deepwater development offshore Brazil. It is designed to produce 100,000 barrels of oil and treat up to 45 MMcf/d of natural gas.

<http://www.sbmoffshore.com/DOCS/05f17d9d-7313-4ab8-a495-d93ec4ab68d6.pdf>

## **Tesoro, PTP Agree to Reverse 81-mile trans-Panamanian Oil Pipeline, Move 107,000 b/d of Crude East-to-West—Oil Will Supply U.S. West Coast, Alaska and Hawaii**

Tesoro Corp agreed to move 107,000 b/d of oil east-to-west along Petroterminal de Panama (PTP)'s 81-mile trans-Panamanian pipeline in Panama for a seven-year span. PTP will reverse the line's flow, and open it for Tesoro in the third quarter of 2009. The deal will enable Tesoro to deliver oil from Africa, the North Sea and elsewhere to the U.S. West Coast, Alaska and Hawaii.

DJN, 10:11 December 16, 2008

<http://www.b2i.us/profiles/investor/ResLibraryView.asp?BzID=1537&ResLibraryID=27853&Category=1218>

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## **Natural Gas**

### **Update: Restoration to Offshore Natural Gas Production in Gulf of Mexico Continues Following Hurricanes Gustav and Ike, MMS Reports December 16**

An estimated 1,461 MMcf/d of natural gas output remained shut in the Gulf of Mexico December 16, according to the Minerals Management Service (MMS). That total accounts for about 19.7 percent of the Federal offshore gas production in the Gulf. Offshore oil and gas operators continued to reboard platforms and restore production.

<http://www.mms.gov/ooc/press/2008/press1216.htm>

### **Gas Leak, Explosion at DCP Midstream Natural Gas Plant in Colorado December 16**

An explosion injured one employee and forced shut DCP Midstream's natural gas plant in Dacono, Colorado December 16. Responders extinguished the subsequent fire within one hour, but gas continued to leak from the facility. A fire official said no cause or precise location had been determined.

<http://www.greeleytribune.com/article/20081216/NEWS/812169946/1002/NONE&parentprofile=1001&title=Explosion,%20fire%20rocks%20gas%20plant%20near%20Fort%20Lupton>

[http://www.timescall.com/news\\_story.asp?ID=13009](http://www.timescall.com/news_story.asp?ID=13009)

### **Explosion Shuts Oneok Natural Gas Processing Plant and Pipeline in Kansas**

Oneok's natural gas fractionator plant and the Overland Pass Pipeline in Kansas shut due to an explosion December 15, according to the company. The plant sustained only limited damage, and the pipeline was expected to restart today. The 14-and-16 inch Overland Pass Pipeline stretches 760 miles from Opal, Wyoming to a location near Conway, Kansas. It typically delivers about 50,000 b/d of natural gas liquids, but can move up to 110,000 b/d. One worker sustained injuries due to the "small fire," a spokeswoman said. It was not clear when the fractionator plant would return to service.

Bloomberg News, 12:29 December 15, 2008

<http://www.nebraska.tv/Global/story.asp?S=9521446>

### **Update: Williams Completes Repairs to 30-inch, Texas-to-New York Transco B Natural Gas Pipeline after September Explosion**

Williams Cos. completed a hydrostatic test, and was awaiting regulatory approval to restart the line. The Texas-to-New York pipeline can deliver 8.2 Bcf/d of natural gas. It exploded in Virginia on September 14. Williams said then that the incident would not impact customers; it redirected gas to other lines and avoided any disruptions.

Bloomberg News, 17:14 December 15, 2008

Energy Assurance Daily, September 15, 2008

### **National Fuel Gas Company Subsidiary Opens Empire Connector Natural Gas Pipeline in New York**

National Fuel Gas Company's Empire Pipeline Inc. placed its Empire Connector pipeline in service, the company said in a release. The line runs from Victor, New York to Corning New York, linking the existing Empire State Pipeline to the Millennium Pipeline project. It expanded the 157-mile long Empire State Pipeline by about 77 miles. The build included a 20,000 horsepower compressor station. The Empire Connector and Millennium Pipelines, along with the Algonquin Gas Transmission and Iroquois Gas Transmission System expansion projects, should be finished later in December. When complete, the projects will boost gas supplies to the U.S. Northeast by a combined 525,400 Dth/d.

<http://www.nationalfuelgas.com/news/ECP%20WEB12152008-153823.pdf>

### Steven Chu Nominated to Head Energy Department, Obama Announces

President-elect Barack Obama announced yesterday that Steven Chu, a Nobel Prize winning physicist and director of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in California, is his nominee for Energy Secretary. "His appointment should send a signal to all that my administration will value science," Obama said. Under Chu's guidance, the Berkeley lab has focused on issues in renewable energy and climate change. Chu is "a leading advocate of reducing greenhouse gases by developing new energy sources," one news source said. Current Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman said that Chu "understands the significance of our energy and environmental challenges, and more importantly, understands the technical solutions necessary to address them.... I hold him in the highest regard."

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB122937902400408413.html.html>

<http://www.latimes.com/news/politics/la-na-obama-green16-2008dec16,0,256488.story>

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/front/6166164.html>

### Georgia Alternative Energy Cooperative Postpones Plans for 50 Million Gallon/Year Ethanol Plant in Georgia

Citing financing issues, the company said plans for the facility were "basically on pause." The plant was slated to open in the summer. "We still intend to build the plant when the timing is right for us," according to the company's project manager.

[http://www.moultrieobserver.com/local/local\\_story\\_350231042.html](http://www.moultrieobserver.com/local/local_story_350231042.html)

### Thaes Delays Construction of Planned 25-39 Million Gallon/Year Ethanol Plant in Tamaulipas State, Mexico

Thaes delayed its construction plans by three quarters, citing poor economic conditions. The company had expected to break ground in the first quarter of 2009; now, it plans to begin the build in the fourth quarter of 2009. The facility was to have opened in July 2011. Mexican ethanol production, according to a news source, could help ease fuel transportation concerns in the United States.

<http://www.energycurrent.com/index.php?id=3&storyid=14878>

### ConocoPhillips, Peabody Energy Plan Kentucky NewGas Coal-to-Gas Facility in Kentucky

ConocoPhillips and Peabody Energy filed an air permit with Kentucky to build the coal-to-natural-gas facility in Muhlenberg County, Kentucky. The Kentucky NewGas facility is expected to generate enough energy to provide for nearly 750,000 Midwest homes.

[http://www.conocophillips.com/newsroom/news\\_releases/2008news/12-16-2008.htm](http://www.conocophillips.com/newsroom/news_releases/2008news/12-16-2008.htm)

### TransGas Development Systems Plans 6.5 Million Barrel/Year Coal-to-Liquids Plant in West Virginia

The facility would consume as much as 3 million tons/year of coal, and generate more than 6.5 million barrels/year of gasoline. TransGas Development Systems has filed a permit to construct the facility, and expects it online by 2013.

<http://www.pandct.com/media/shownews.asp?ID=19746>

## Energy Prices

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U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
December 16, 2008			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b>			
<b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b>	44.24	42.90	91.11
\$/Barrel			
<b>NATURAL GAS</b>			
<b>Henry Hub</b>	5.75	5.73	7.46
\$/Million Btu			

Source: Reuters

### **SRU Incinerator Snag at Alon's 67,000 b/d Big Spring, Texas Refinery December 15**

DJN, 10:52 December 16, 2008

Bloomberg News, 10:56 December 16, 2008

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=117775>

### **Update: Approximately 590,000 b/d of Nigerian Oil Still Down—Nigerian Minister of Petroleum**

Bloomberg News, 12:24 December 16, 2008

### **Update: Alaskan Official Believes TransCanada, BP and ConocoPhillips Will Work Together to Build Natural Gas Pipeline from North Slope**

<http://www.adn.com/money/industries/oil/pipeline/story/624350.html>

### **Iranian Official Says Pirates Have Attacked Five Iranian Supertankers in 2008**

Reuters, 12:10 December 16, 2008

### **Update: Somali Pirates Could Release Saudi Arabian Oil Tanker in “72 Hours”—Saudi Gazette**

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601116&sid=aAAfU8unn1ag&refer=africa>

### **Japanese Refiner Showa Shell Sekiyu Seeks to Approximately-Double Oil Products Exports to 86,000 b/d**

Reuters, 02:51 December 16, 2008

### **Update: Rosneft Says it Would Comply with any Russian Decision to Cut Supplies along with OPEC**

<http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/8239153.xml?p=Oil/News&sub=Oil>

### **Tullow Oil Says Buffalo-1 Well in Uganda Holds 130 Million Barrels of Proven and Provable Oil Reserves, with 200 Million Barrel “Upside Potential”**

Bloomberg News, 11:43 December 16, 2008

### **Compressor Shutdown Triggers Flaring at Welch CO2 Gas Processing Facility in Texas December 16**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=117782>

### **Engine Shutdown, Flaring at Harper Booster Station in Texas December 15**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=117778>

### **Units Shut at Boyd Compressor Station in Texas December 15**

<http://www11.tceq.state.tx.us/oc/eer/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=117783>

### **Update: BLM Eliminates More than Half of Available Acres for O&G Development in Utah—Cites Closeness to National Parks, Monuments**

<http://intelligencepress.com/>

### **Update: Woodside Asks Regulators to Delay Environmental Assessment of Proposed LNG Terminal Offshore California—Company Seeks to Reduce Project Size**

[http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200812/Woodside\\_Seeks\\_Delay\\_In\\_OceanWay\\_Environ\\_14237.aspx](http://www.downstreamtoday.com/News/Articles/200812/Woodside_Seeks_Delay_In_OceanWay_Environ_14237.aspx)

**Chevron Energy Solutions, Milpitas Unified School District and Bank of America Install 3.4 MW District-Wide Solar and Energy Efficiency Project in California**

[http://news.prnewswire.com/DisplayReleaseContent.aspx?ACCT=ind\\_focus.story&STORY=/www/story/12-15-2008/0004942182&EDATE=](http://news.prnewswire.com/DisplayReleaseContent.aspx?ACCT=ind_focus.story&STORY=/www/story/12-15-2008/0004942182&EDATE=)

**Appeals Court Says Farmers Can Sue Xcel Energy Regarding Stray Voltage Incident That Killed 80 Dairy Cows in Minnesota**

[http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news\\_article.cfm?id=11659538](http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=11659538)

## **Links**

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***This Week in Petroleum*** from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

***Weekly Petroleum Status Report*** from EIA

[http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil\\_gas/petroleum/data\\_publications/weekly\\_petroleum\\_status\\_report/wpsr.html](http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html)

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM EST every Wednesday.

***Natural Gas Weekly Update*** from EIA

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

### **ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY**

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*Energy Assurance Daily* provides a summary of public information concerning current energy issues. Published Monday through Friday to inform stakeholders of developments affecting energy systems, flows, and markets, it provides highlights of energy issues rather than a comprehensive coverage. *Energy Assurance Daily* is updated online Monday through Friday after 5:00 p.m. EST. For more information, visit the Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration (ISER) website at:

<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/ead.aspx>

Please direct comments and questions to: [ead@oe.netl.doe.gov](mailto:ead@oe.netl.doe.gov)